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VIII. *A Letter from Mr Ralph Thoresby, F.R.S.
to Dr. Hans Sloane, R. S. Secr. Concerning large
Stones voided per Urethram.*

Leedes, Nov. 26. 1711.

Honoured Sir,

Something extraordinary happening in the Case of a young Man who dyed yesterday, please to accept of the Relation of it, as follows. *Joshua the Son of Thomas Spurrit*, a poor Clothier upon the *Quarry-Hill* near this Town, having been for a long time sadly afflicted with the Stone, was the last Year in an extraordinary manner tormented. I have 3 Stones that he voided, which are of a great bigness to pass the *Penis*, and five more that he could not get rid of without the kind assistance of *Mr. S. Pollard*, an Ingenious Surgeon of this Town; who by an Incision made way for them, as they came severally near the *Glans*: When ever one of these great Stones broke out, there was a Crack within his Body, as if the *Sphincter Muscle*, or *Bladder* itself, was rent. Till this Instance I thought it (I confess) impossible, that the *Ureters* (which are naturally no thicker than a *Barley Straw*) or the *Urinary Passage* was capable of receiving Stones of this Dimension. I have sent you one of the 5 (neither the biggest or least of them) to know whether it be really so extraordinary as I apprehend: This Day the Youth being dissected, there were found in the top of his *Bladder* (which was contracted like a *Purse*) two prodigious large Stones; one especially which I measured, and it was rather more than 5 Inches

ches and a half one way, and 4 the other ; it weighed two Ounces, wanting 3 Drams : The other seems lighter, and weighs but one Dram above an Ounce. There were two very odd Stones taken out of the Right Kidney ; the Left was wholly degenerated into a kind of Mucilage : And betwixt the Neck of the Bladder and the end of the *Penis* (which was mortified thereby), were lodged no less than half a dozen such Stones as this herewith sent you ; which if it be as rare, as we are ready to apprehend here, you will not grudge, tho' it put you to the Charge of double Postage, from

Sir,

*Your most obliged
and most humble Servant,*

RALPH THORESBY.

P. S. There was little Moisture left in the Bladder ; the Ureters being broke off, and almost wholly consumed.